

FIG. 1 is a top perspective view of a contact lens package of this invention shown prior to heat-sealing lidstock onto the package;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged cross-sectional view of the sealing area of the package of FIG. 1 taken along the line 2-2 shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 2A is an exploded view of the seal volume shown in FIG. 2.

FIG. 3 is a top perspective view of an alternative embodiment of a contact lens package of this invention shown prior to heat-sealing lidstock onto the package; and

FIG. 4 shows an enlarged cross-sectional view of the sealing area of the package of FIG. 3 taken along the line 4-4 shown in FIG. 3;

FIG. 4A is an exploded view of the seal volume shown in FIG. 4.

Replace the two paragraphs on page 3, line 25 through page 4, line 22 with the following:

FIG. 2 and FIG. 2A show an enlarged cross-section of a portion of the package 10 of FIG. 1 along the line 2-2, shown in FIG 1. The raised seal volume 20 is shown comprising two linear sides, a first linear side 21, and a second linear side 22, which meet at a point or rounded point 23 which is the uppermost surface of the raised seal volume 20. The first linear side 21 is located closer to the well 14. The second linear side 22 is located further from the well 14. The first linear side 21 meets the well 14 at corner 27 which defines the perimeter 28. The corner may be rounded or sharp as desired. Angle alpha shown at the base of linear side 21 is defined by the intersection of linear side 21 with the horizontal plane P as shown. Typically horizontal plane P is parallel to the opening of the well when the package is resting on a flat surface. Most packages provide supports 29 or other structures for this purpose. Angle alpha is typically from 125 to 170 degrees, preferably from

135 to 165 degrees, and more preferably from 145 to 165 degrees, and most preferably from 155 to 165 degrees. The second linear side 22 meets the top surface of the flange 16 at angle beta. However, if the flange 16 is not in the horizontal plane then angle beta is defined as the angle formed at the intersection of linear side 22 and the horizontal plane P. Angle beta is preferably from 125 to 170 degrees, more preferably from 135 to 165 degrees, and more preferably from 145 to 165 degrees, and most preferably from 155 to 165. Preferably, the linear sides have respective lengths D, E from 0.10mm to 0.65mm, more preferably from 0.14mm to 0.45mm, and most preferably from 0.18mm to 0.25mm. The preferred overall width A of the raised seal volume 20 is from 1.16mm to 2.30mm, more preferably from 1.22mm to 1.85mm, and most preferably from 1.34mm to 1.56mm. The preferred overall height B of the raised seal volume 20 is from 0.1mm to 0.3mm, more preferably from 0.12mm to 0.24mm, and most preferably from 0.14mm to 0.16mm.

It is preferred that linear sides 21 and 22 and angles alpha and beta are mirror images of each other; however that is not required as long as both linear sides are present as parts of the raised seal volume 20, and as long as the angles are both within the ranges specified. Lengths D and E and angles alpha and beta can vary and be different from one another, depending on the location of raised seal volume 20 in relation to other features and considerations within the package.

Replace the two paragraphs on page 4, line 26 through page 5, line 16 with the following:

FIG. 3, 4 and 4A show an alternative embodiment of the package of this invention. FIG. 3 is a perspective plan view of the package and FIG. 4 and FIG. 4A show an enlarged cross-section of a portion of the package 10 of FIG. 3 along the line 4-4. FIG. 3, 4, and 4A show a package having a raised seal volume 20 that is located a distance C between the perimeter 28 of the well 14 and the surface of the raised seal volume 20 closest to the well 14. Note that C may vary in a package design, because it is not required that the raised seal volume follow the perimeter of the well exactly or even at all. Preferably C is from 0 and 6 mm, more preferably from 1 to 5 mm and most preferably from 2 to 5 mm. Additionally, the raised seal volume 20 as shown in FIG. 3, 4 and 4A has a rounded top surface 43

AB
contiguous with and located between the linear sides 21 and 22. The radius of the rounded surface 43 is preferably from 1.0mm to 10.0mm, more preferably from 1.5mm to 6.0mm, and most preferably from 2.0mm to 5.0mm. Further the width F of the rounded surface 43 is preferably from 0.50mm to 2.0mm, more preferably from 0.50mm to 1.5mm, and most preferably from 0.50mm to 1.0mm. The other features of this embodiment are as described for the earlier embodiment, namely, the angles, lengths of the linear sides, the width of the heat seal, and the height of the seal volume.

FIG 3, 4 and 4A show the preferred embodiment, because the distance C provides a space in which the melted plastic of the raised seal volume may flow and not create a rough surface that would be adjacent to, extend above, or flow into the well that may damage a contact lens as it is removed from the recessed well. However it may be possible in accordance with this invention, if the correct sealing conditions and materials are used, to locate the raised seal volume adjacent to the well by providing a large length D of side 21.

In the claims

Kindly add new claims 21 and 22 as follows:

- A4
21. The contact lens package of claim 1, further comprising a rounded surface between said linear sides wherein said radius of said rounded surface is from 1.5 to 6mm.
 22. The contact lens package of claim 1, wherein said linear sides meet in a point or a rounded point.